VOTE OCT. 27th!

THE 4-32 SCIENCE U.B.C. NEWSPAPER

Volume 2, Number 4 October 26, 1988

PCB's in Your Life

by Lorraine Lewis

A neighbour of mine in residence, Lis Vallaster, went to a forum talk show on PCB's (polychlorinated biphenyls) put on by the CBC on October 13th and aired October 15th after the hockey game. Her timing was fortuitous: that day a light in our hall almost started on fire. It didn't bother me helping remove the old tubes until afterwards when it was explained that the ballast had melted and there was danger of PCB's leaking out in the fluid. The fumes we inhaled could have had PCB's, dioxins, and furans in them too. This seemingly inconsequential incident raised my awareness of hazardous chemicals. No one wants to get cancer, but how can we know what's floating around in our environment?

The forum (named "The Slow Bomb") brought out some interesting and scary facts. There is a plan to put a hazardous waste incinerator (renamed "special" waste by the provincial government for our delicate ears) in Ashcroft. Who wants a hazardous waste incinerator in their backyard?

As usual, industry and government had opposing views from those of scientists, environmental groups and concerned citizens. Bruce Strachen, Minister of Environment, said that PCB's weren't dangerous if handled properly, but are toxic if contacted. An environmental impact study will be done in Ashcroft and until it can be proven that incineration is safe and people want it there, there won't be an incinerator. George Comb, Vice-President of research and development at ENSCO, the company in charge of Ashcroft's incincerator, stated that incineration is safe, has no detectable impact, and will provide a "service" and "plan to make money."

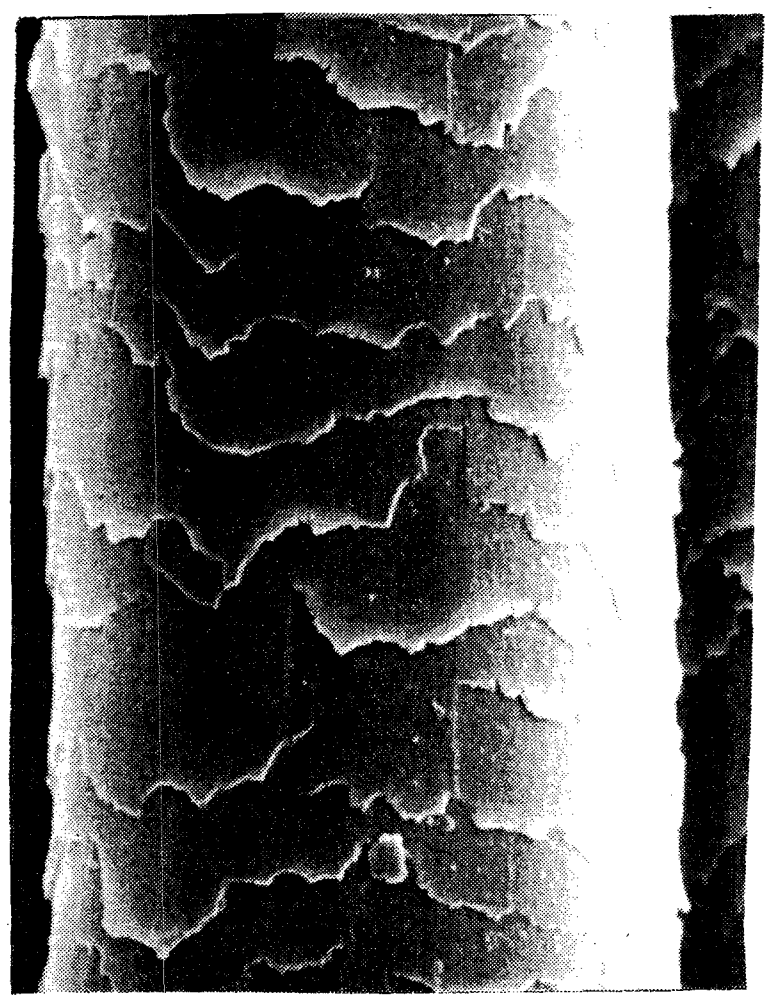
Paul Connett, a distinguished professor of chemistry at St. Lawrence University in New York, had very different information. In theory the DRE (destruction removal efficiency) of PCB incineration in >99%, but follow-up observations of areas surrounding hazardous waste incinerators at El Dorado and Baton Rouge in the USA show people with repiratory problems and high cancer rates, and animals which sicken and die showing signs of contamination. (VSEPA, "Health Assessment Documents for PCDD," EPA/600/8-84/014F(1985).)

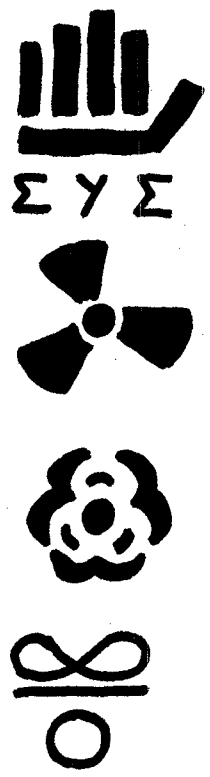
Chris van Netten, a UBC toxicologist and an audience participant, voiced concerns of the immunological problems of PCB pollution: chloracne and babies with skin discolouration. Higher C1 levels are more toxic and the body reacts by producing enzymes to combat the PCB's, but they don't work and just build up unhealthily.

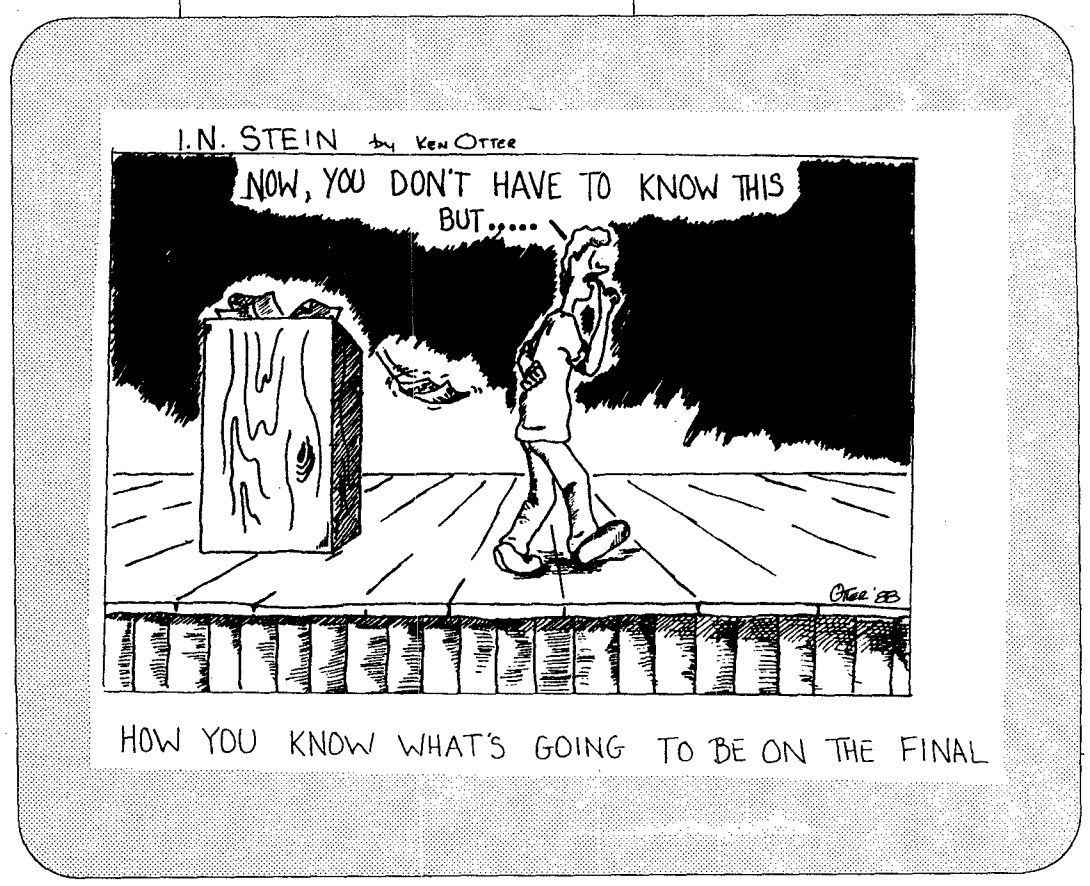
Connett described other alternatives for removing PCB's: K-PEG (potassium polyethylene glycol) can be used on PCB-contaminated matter such as soils and fluids. Bruce Strachen's policy so far has seemed to be to ask industries nicely if they would cut back incineration, rather than investigating other methods of disposing of PCB's and offering economic incentives to companies to reduce PCB incineration. He defended incineration on the grounds that it is the most established and widely used disposal technology.

Most disturbing was Connett's statement that the greatest source of polychlorinated species is through the food chain. "Drinking one quart of milk," he said, "is equivalent to breathing contaminated air for eight months."

I'm glad I never drink milk.







The All-New Adventures of Wack M. Good

by Sulan Chong-Kit

Because Dik Miller, Campus Cowboy is bedridden with the flu this week, we present you with an equally exciting, action-packed spy adventure, with far wider-ranging international locales, better-looking women, and a bigger budget. We just hope you want Dik back when he recovers.

Wack M. Good was strolling down the street, minding his own business and watching out for gum on the pavement when his shoe phone went off. Dang, he always hated when his phone went off in public - it was embarrassing having strangers ask you why your shoe was beeping. Quickly, he found a deserted alley, ignored a staring cat, took off his shoe, and took the call.

"Hello, this is Wack M. Good speaking," he said. "I'm sorry, I can't come to the phone right now, but if you leave a message at the tone, I'll get back to you as soon as possible." An impatient female voice snapped, "Agent 911, quit fooling around. The boss wants to see you right away. Report to headquarters immediately." He winced as she slammed the receiver down. With a sigh, he put back on his shoe, called a cab, and was on the next flight to headquarters.

Arriving at his destination, he got a Yugo from Hertz Rent-a-Car (budget cutbacks can really cramp an agent's style), and made his way to a large mountain in a national park. Scouting through the woods he finally found the hollow stump that concealed the secret entrance to headquarters. He entered and wound his way down miles of twisting passages until he arrived at the headquarters of the Secret Undergraduate Service, a tiny room hewn out of granite.

As usual, Miss Neville, the secretary, was there and was busy calling agents and slamming the receiver in their ears.

"Good morning, it's good to see you again," Wack purred. "That's a lovely scarf you're wearing."

Neville did not answer, but gave him a cold look that said "drop dead." He gave her a what's going on. You're booked on the 10:00 flight to Egypt."

"Is that the flight with the stopover in Hawaii?" Wack asked hopefully. His boss just gave him a dirty look. Wack figured he had pushed his luck enough, smiled, and left. He wondered what those Egyptian Communist Terrorists were like.

At the airport, he got a comfortable sea and looked for an Egyptian about his height and weight. Finally, he saw one, dressed in a T-shirt and jeans. "Great," thought Wack. Wack followed the man until he saw his chance. Quickly, Wack snatched up the man's suitcase and scurried off to the boarding area for his flight to Egypt. It was a bit sneaky, appropriating the man's clothes like that, but it beat going all over town to find a disguise. Finally, Wack boarded his plane, an old DC-10.

Will Wack survive a DC-10 flight? Find out next time in:
The Adventures of Wack M. Good

Biosoc Update

by Johan Stroman, BIOSOC President

For those of you who are still unaware, the Biological Sciences Society (BIOSOC) is now in full-blown operation after its formation only nine short months ago. This year's membership exceeds 100 and is still growing, making BIOSOC the biggest club behind the Iron Curtain (SUS). Some of the events that have already occurred this year include the BEAR and CEDAR garden on September 30. This was an intimate affair, ie. attendance was a little lower than expected - but those who did bother to show up seemed to quaff down quite a few BEARS.

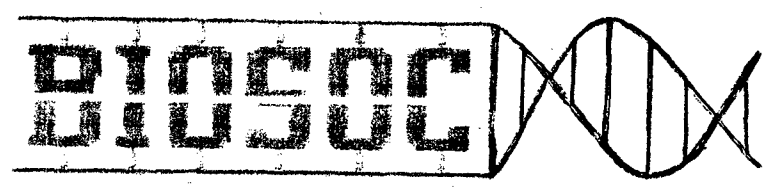
The search for out logo is finally over. Congratulations are in order to all those who took the time to whip up an entry. A special Honourable Mention goes out to Dr. H. for his wonderful entry. Sorry, but the contest was only open to students - nice try though. After much deliberation, the top three designs were chosen to be by: Yolanda Leung, Wendy Sokugawa, and Gladys Tong. Yolanda's design incorporates the BIOSOC name along with a piece of genetic material and we felt that this best displayed all of the biological sciences. All three of these designs were well done, and Yolanda, Wendy, and Gladys will recieve a BIOSOC shirt - when they arrive. Our thanks to Sarah Bagshaw, Carey Bergman, Mark Forgie, Kimberly Henders, and G. Wong for their entries as well.

On October 11, Dr. Thomas Carefoot presented some of out second and third year students with some valuable information on the choice of an Honours or Major degree and the various programs available in Biology at UBC. Those who attended were impressed by the answers they received, and hopefully the talk made some of your decisions on a program a little easier. Our thanks go out to Dr. Carefoot for his time and effort.

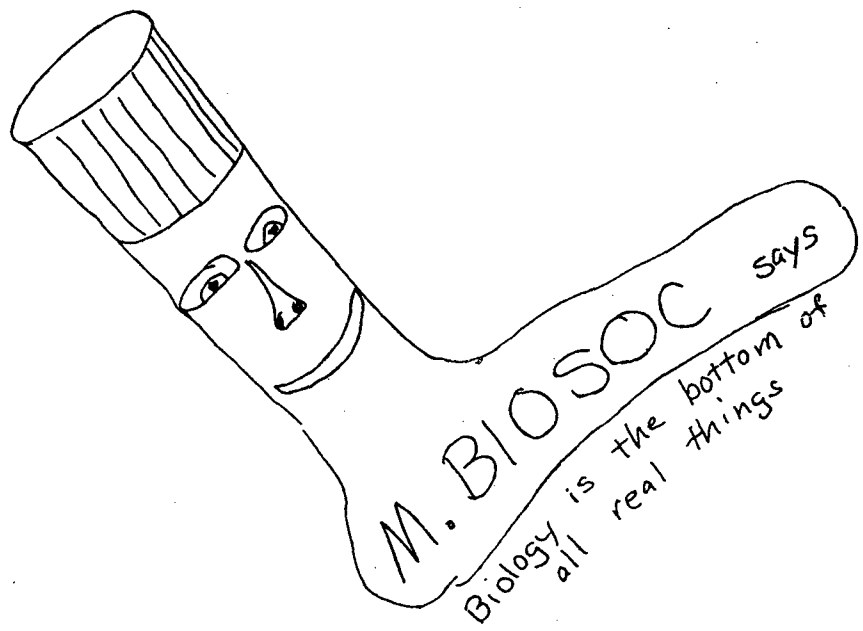
Upcoming events to keep an eye out for are seminars, an Amazon rainforest video night (tentatively Nov. 1), a grad event and a Christmas Exam stress release BEAR and CEDAR garden on Dec. 2. Everyone is welcome at our meetings, every second Tuesday in BIOL 2449 (Nov. 8 and 22). Come and find out what is planned, or check our notice board (beside BIOL 2000, across from the SUS board) for announcements and office hours. Membership is only $2.00.

(Other logos p. 7)

The Winning Entry by Yolanda Leung



The Honourable Mention by Dr. H.



Can You Solve This Puzzle?

by Russ Monger

a = the smallest prime number
b = the smallest of these numbers (pi, 2, root 5)
c = number of Beatles still living
d = fingers in a glove (not counting the thumb!)
e = solve for e (as a variable)

f = if it takes 8 men 8 minutes to dig 8 holes, how many minutes will it take 10 men to dig 10 holes?
g = number of defensive players on a baseball field at one time
h = a baker's dozen
i = molecular weight of oxygen
j = years since Canada's centennial
k = number of pairs of chromosomes in humans
l = days in September
m = degrees Fahrenheit at which water freezes
n = number of cards in a deck
o = number of squares on a chessboard
p = age of retirement in Canada
q = number of quarts in 20.5 gallons
r = hours in a fortnight
s = total degrees of angles inside a square
t = days in a leap year
u = the temperature at which paper burns (Bradbury novel)
v = the year that the US put a man on the moon
w = if you travel 18,080 miles and use 5 new tires equally, how many miles will each tire experience?

$$\frac{\left[\left[p\cdot\left(\frac{v+u}{e}\right)\right]-\left[\frac{l\cdot[w+(t\cdot h)]}{j}\right]\right]}{\left[\left[\frac{s+r}{(k+b)\cdot\left[\sqrt[d]{i}\div\frac{q}{f}\right]-n}\right]+\left[\frac{q-o}{g}\right]^{c}\right]}+m$$

Vertical Migration in the Sea

by Russ Monger

It is generally accepted that a wide range of planktonic animals in the sea are capable of regular up and down movement, transporting themselves between surface layers and deeper water. This vertical migration occurs in both salt and fresh water systems and there are even some tiny plants that refulate their depth in response to photosynthetic light.

The phenomenon of vertical migration has been acknowledged since at least the early years of this century. Herring fishermen in the North Sea would work by night as their shallow nets would catch nothing by day. It is now understood that the herring migrated in response to the daily vertical migration of their plankton prey. Oceanographers gathered information on the mystery of vertical migration only gradually until World War II. During the war, echo sounders used by fishing fleets reported shallow soundings where charts indicated deep waters. The US Navy investigated these "false echoes" as a part of their submarine detection program and observed that echoes came from deeper depths during the day than during the night. Marine scientists linked these echoes with what little was then known about vertical migration of plankton. It is now known that these "false echoes" are readings of small mid-water fish and squid which follow the planktonic vertical migrations, as these animals are dependent on the plankton for food. Vertical migration can best be described in four different categories: ontogenetic, strategic, seasonal, and daily.

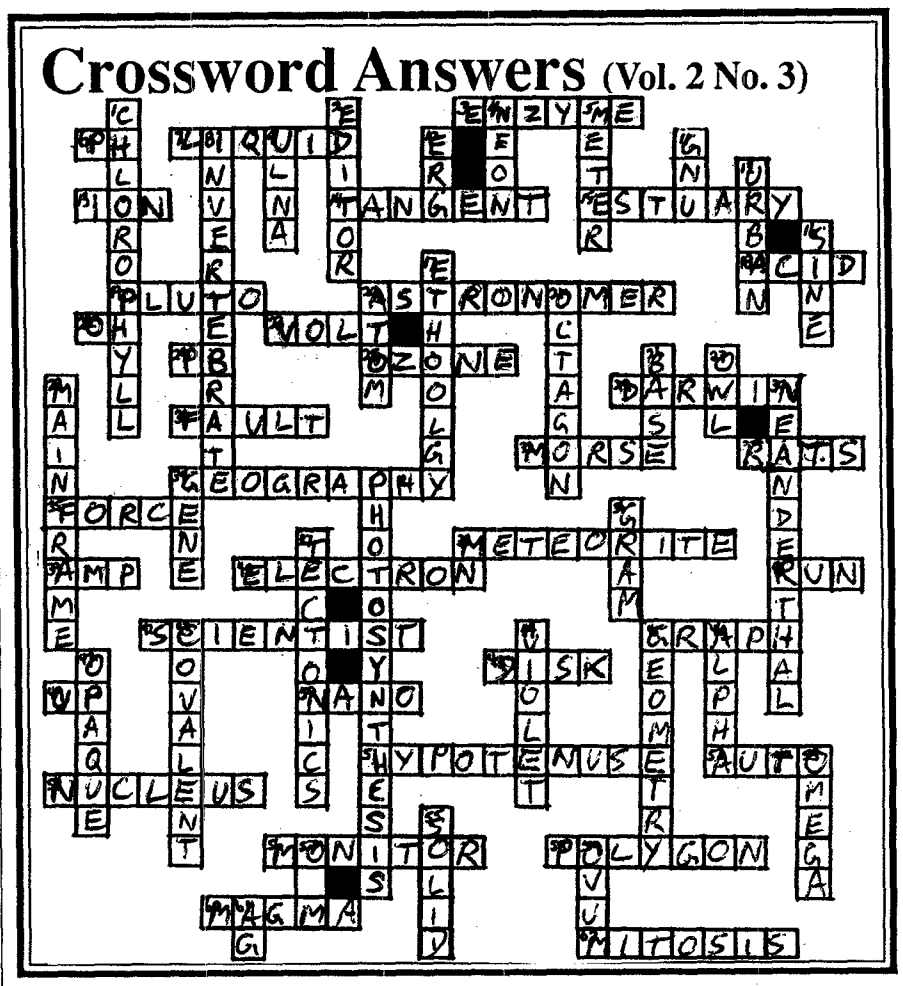
Some marine animals live one stage of their life in the upper layers of the sea and another stage in deep water. This strategy involves a once-in-a-lifetime migration known as ontogenetic vertical migration. In the Pacific Ocean, the copepod Neocalanus plumchrus lives the larval stages of its life in surface waters, then migrates down to spend its adult life in deeper water. When the adult lays eggs, they float to the surface to become a new generation of larvae. The crustacean Euphasia superba behaves quite the opposite: it spends its adult life in surface waters of the Antarctic, where it exploits a convergence zone of upwelling and warm tropical water. When its eggs are laid they sink to the deep water where the resulting larvae will remain until they migrate to the surface as adults.

Some marine snails such as Peringia ulvae exhibit strategic migration. This creature floats and feeds on the water surface at high tide, and floats between sand bars at low tide. During periods when the tide is coming in or going out it burrows in the sand until the tide has reached its high or low. One can speculate that the benefit of this strategic vertical migration is to prevent the animal from being either swept out to sea or washed up on shore by tide action - either situation would place it in an unsuitable habitat. Another example of strategic migration is demonstrated by the "planktonic navigation" of Pleromamma robusta. This copepod takes advantage of the fact that different layers of water move in different directions at different speeds. It floats northward in Antarctic surface water currents and moves southward in deep water currents. In this manner it manages to stay in the approximate area of its chosen habitat.

Seasonal migrations are usually associated with changing sea temperature or with breeding behaviour. In the Gulf of Maine, the mollusc Spiratella helicina drifts in with the deep waters of the northern Labrador current but is not present when the Gulf waters become warmer. Apparently it does not breed in warm waters and returns via surface currents to Labrador to reproduce. Likewise, the Arctic copepod Metridia longa occasionally comes to the Gulf, but it does spawn in the warmer water. There is also a tropical arrow worm, Sagitta serratodentata, carried to the Gulf of Maine by the Gulf Stream currents but it does not breed there; the continuation of this species relies on an annual supply of new individuals from its original home. Some bottom dwellers such as syllid worms in the Singapore Strait come to the surface at certain times of the year to release their sperm and eggs.

Daily migrations occur on a cycle from daytime depths below the photic (light) zone up to surface waters at night. The popular theory is that grazing zooplankton come to the photic zone to feed on phytoplankton during the night and migrate downward to escape predation by day. These daily vertical migrations are regulated by different factors including salinity and temperature, but the most important factor appears to be light intensity. Some species of zooplankton are very sensitive to light: observations have indicated that bright moonlight or even a clear starlit night will result in animals being at lower nighttime levels in the water than usual. In contrast, some plankton such as the adult Calanus come nearer to the surface during foggy weather or when light penetration is reduce by rain or wind.

The amount of energy consumed in active vertical migration leads us to the belief that it may be of great survival value to planktonic animals. There are several suggested benefits to an individual that vertically migrates on a cycle. One is that of predator avoidance. By remaining in deep waters during the day the zooplankton are able to avoid sharp-sighted predators; this explains ontogenetic and daily migrations but not seasonal ones. Another theory suggests that zooplankton migrate to avoid toxic substances produced by phytoplankton during peak photosynthetic periods. A third possible explanation is that zooplankton rise and sink as a result in changes in their density: an animal feeds, becomes heavier and sinks. The theory is challenged by data showing that zooplankton are active and not passive swimmers. One further idea involves metabolism rates. A low stable temperature as found in deeper waters would enable an organism such as a zooplankton to lower its rate of metabolism, lowering its energy costs. Vertical migration may also allow an animal to discover and exploit new resources by taking advantage of planktonic navigation.



Shorts and Such

Security Crew Needed

Anyone interested in forming a Concert & Security Crew for filling AMS Security Contracts for the SUS should contact Patrick Redding through the SUS office, Scarfe 9.

Clubs!

Do you want your meeting dates, upcoming bzzr gardens, seminars, or other events advertised in the 432? If so, please drop the info by the Science office in Scarfe 9 before the 432 deadline (listed elsewhere in this issue) most relevant to your announcement.

The Environment and the Election

How to make environmental issues count in the upcoming election.
A discussion at the next meeting of the Environmental Interest Group, Thursday, Oct. 27, 12:30pm in Geography 229.

Everyone welcome. Please bring your opinions.

Future Gretzkys Unite!

The Science Men's Division II Ice Hockey team desperately needs more players. Come to or call the SUS office (Scarfe 9, 228-4235), or call Kevin Demas, Hockey Director, at 261-7130.

Real News!

Congratulations to the Arts and Engineering Undergraduate Societies for joining the ranks of the real campus newspapers and publishing their own legitimate papers. Arts published their "Underground" a couple of weeks ago, and the Engineers are rumoured to have a paper in the works, to be published two days before this issue of the 432 (ie. we don't know what it's called yet).

Physsoc Hallowe'en Party!

- October 28th, Hebb 12
- Doors open at 5pm
- Prizes for best costumes
- $1.50 admission
- Liquid refreshments ridiculously underpriced

Buy tickets in advance from Physsoc members or Physsoc itself (Hennings 307). No minors please.

The Deadlines for The 432 are:

Nov. 7, 16;
Dec. 28; Jan. 11;
Feb. 1, 15; Mar. 1,15

4pm to Scarfe room 9

The 432 is published biweekly by the Science Undergraduate Society of the University of British Columbia, located in room 9 of the Scarfe Education Building, 2125 Main Mall, Vancouver, B.C., Canada V6T 1W5. Phone (604) 228-4235.

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Photographers: Cris Dunbar, Eric Walker, Derek Miller
Developer: Dean Allchin
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VOTE OCTOBER 27th!

1st and 2nd YEAR REP EL

Hi! My name is Kande Williston and I am running for the position of first year rep. I have many plans to make your year more enjoyable and the determination to follow through with my plans.

Recent experience:
1987-88 High school student's council
treasurer
Member of grad committee
Vice president of drama club

Goals for the upcoming year:
- More publicity for SUS events, such as dances
- More student involvement in intramurals and other sports events
- Better circulation of the 432
- More events providing opportunities for students to meet others with similar interests

Remember - there is more to life than lectures and labs!

****
****

HUGH LEUNG
-running for 1st year rep.

****

I have a dream... I wish to serve the Faculty of Science. I like to make the Faculty of Science strong. I like to turn your ideas into words, your words into actions, and your actions into achievements. I like to turn your dreams into reality. Let's work together and let's make the Faculty of Science the best it can be. On OCTOBER 27, please support this dream. Elect HUGH LEUNG as your 1st year rep.

****
****

Hi! My name is Pauline Anthoine and I am running for the position of 1st Year Rep. Briefly speaking:

Why I am running:
Because I am
* RELIABLE *
* RESPONSIBLE *
* ENTHUSIASTIC *

What I'll do:
- Keep all 1st Year students informed of the activities of the SUS. TOO MANY STUDENTS MISS IMPORTANT EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES SIMPLY BECAUSE THEY DO NOT KNOW ABOUT THEM.
  Remember - there is more to UBC than just lectures and labs!
- Science students have to pick their Majors at the beginning of their 2nd year. My goal is to INCREASE the awareness of 1st Year Science students about all the different fields they can choose to go into. I WANT TO HELP YOU.

I have the ideas, the drive, and the leadership qualities to make great things happen. I'm willing to put in the time to ensure that all 1st Year students have a fun and successful year.

Why settle for second best?
VOTE
* PAULINE ANTHOINE * on Oct. 27th

Okay, here's the deal:

You could have a geek fest and get yourself an official SCIENCE pocket protector, calculator, and protractor OR

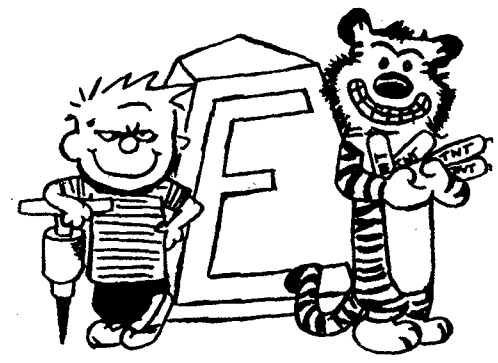
You could vote for the guy with two years Student Council Executive experience and get yourself an official SCIENCE geer whip, artsy thrasher, prof neutralizer, and "garden" mug.

TOUGH DECISION???? nope!

VOTE: SANJAY PARIKH for 2nd YEAR REP!

ANNETTE ROHR: Chemistry 2

-for the termination of all geers
-for a great year
-for 2nd year S.U.S. rep
-for 1988/89



VOTE ANNETTE ROHR!!!

Vote for Me
James Burns
1st. year Science Rep.

Polls in Chemistry, Hebb,

LECTIONS OCTOBER 27!

V O T E.

DEREK D.CARDY

2nd Yr Sci REP

I live for UBC. I like to work hard and I like to keep busy. There's a Rule of Thumb I like to follow:"If you want something done, give it to a busy person."

For 2nd Yr Science,
D.D.C.

Hi! My name's Dave New and I'm in second year Astronomy. Last year I was one of two first year representatives to the SUS council, and now I'm running for re-election as a second year rep. I bring a year's experience of Academics Sub-Council participation (the folks who bring you the Teaching Excellence Award and the Black & Blue Review), of SUS Council attendance, of work on the 432. I want to improve organization and communication with the student body, and get input and participation up.

Show up at the polling stations October 27th. Vote. Start your participation now.

My name is Winston Yeung. I have the distinct challenge of convincing you to vote for me with what I will say next, so please read on. My main objectives as first year rep are:

1) To represent all first year students in council.

2) To act as a liason between you, the Science Undergrad Society and the AMS executive council.

3) I want to represent the first year students as an active voice in executive council.

What I will try to do for the first year student are as follows:

- I will listen to all your concerns, and then do my best to help you out.
- I want to try and get more students involved in university extra-curricular activities.
-But most of all, I want to provide as much help to you as possible, for example:
- I will try to form a tutorial service, composed of second and third year students, to help answer your problems.
- I will try to provide you with old exams to study with.

BASICALLY, I WANT TO MAKE FIRST YEAR SCIENCE AS SIMPLE AS POSSIBLE FOR YOU.

REMEMBER! YOUR CONCERNS ARE MY CONCERNS !!

Bonnie Snider: candidate for 2nd year rep

I am in my second year of science, majoring in Biopsychology. I have been involved in the highschool student council at Richmond High and am currently a Science Representative for the PSA (Psychology Students' Association). I'd like the opportunity to represent the second year Science students and voice their and my own suggestions with the aim of contributing to what will hopefully be an enjoyable and successful year.

Please take the time to vote on Thursday, Oct. 27

Polling Clerks Needed!

The Student Administrative Commission (SAC) needs PAID polling clerks for the Recreational Facility Referendum from October 31 to November 4.

Drop by the SAC Office in SUB for more details.

Comp. Sci., and Wesbrook.

Mutant Cells from Hell

by Lorraine Lewis

Dr. Frank Tufaro arrived at UBC's Department of Microbiology in August of 1987 to continue his research on secretion in mammalian cells. A paper he published then (which made the front cover of the Journal of Cell Biology, 105, 647-657, 1987) characterized a mutant mouse L cell suspected of being aberrant in the transport process. It was believed that a vesicular transport mutant had been isolated, which caused abnormal glycoprotein processing.

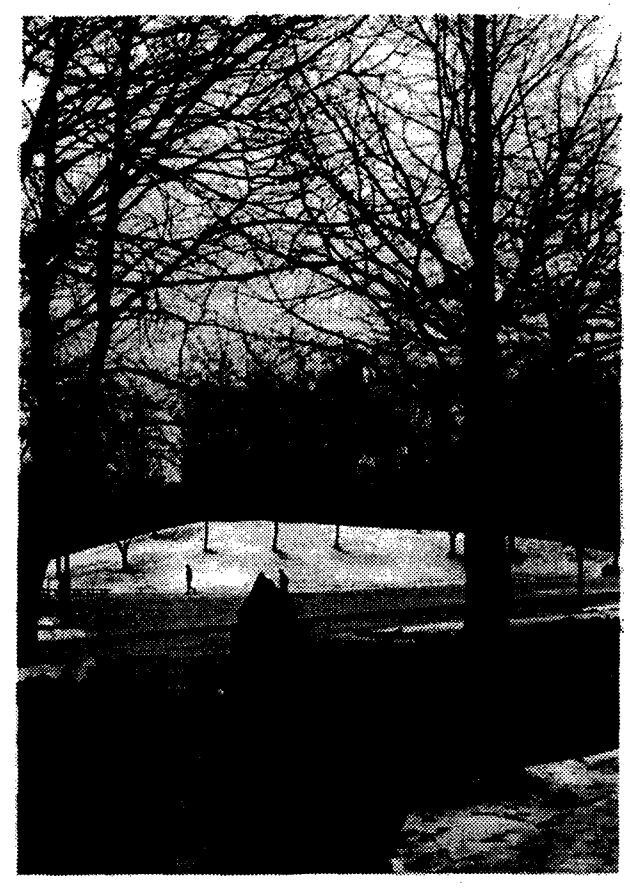
Recently he has been awarded a grant from the Medical Research Council to continue this work. His experiments examine the movements of hormones, proteins, and receptors through the cell in test tubes cultures (in vitro transport assays).

Dr. Tufaro has discovered the first general secretion mutant in eukaryotic mammalian cells. It is certain that this is an important discovery for cell biologists and for medical research. For example, infecting these cells with AIDS virus allows one to see the processing of glycoproteins in slow motion, and makes it easier to trace their pathways.

Dr. Tufaro has pinpointed this mutant mouse cell's defect to a protein located in the Golgi complex - a cellular organelle that functions in the modification of proteins (ie. glycosylations of proteins produces glycoproteins which often serve as cell surface receptors) and directs the flow of these proteins through the Golgi stack to their destinations in the cell by unknown signalling mechanisms. This defective protein is encoded by a gene in the nucleus of the cell (DNA -> mRNA -> protein). Dr. Tufaro is in the process of isolating this defective recessive Golgi gene and is using it to pick out an analogous Golgi gene in the human genome.

In other experiments Dr. Tufaro and his colleague Jonathan Yewdell at the National Institute of Health have discovered that cytotoxic T-cell recognition (CD8) is diminished for influenza virus-infected mutant cells. (Cytotoxic T-cells are a component of the immune system which protects against invading foreign molecules.) They are now trying to identify the molecules on the mutant cell surface that interfere with this process.

Dr. Tufaro's papers on this interesting discovery are still in preparation and further details will be available soon.



Evil lurks deep in the bowels of UBC. Watch out.

Senate Shorts

by Reg Peters, Science Senator

I was recently appointed to Senate by the Science Undergraduate Society to fulfill the position vacated by the resignation of the last senator. What is Senate? you may ask.

Well, it's not a collection of geriatric individuals, or, as some of you think, a group of people with nothing to do. In fact, Senate is the last word in academic matters. It helps prepare the budget, sets admission/advancement standards, sets curricula, grants degrees, awards scholarships, bursaries, and prizes, selects faculty, publishes the Calendar, and runs the Library. Membership of the Senate consists of seventeen students, 12 deans, the Chancellor, the President, and various other officials representing different interests of the University.

Now for items that may be of interest. At the last meeting several more scholarships and bursaries were added to the ever-growing amount available to you. There is a proposed change to the medical and illness procedure that we as student Senators will be sure to discuss at the next meeting.

If you have any concerns regarding proposed curriculum changes for your Science majors, academic policies, or even suggestions for Telereg, let me know and I will see to it that your queries are brought up. My office hours are 10:30-11:30 Monday and Wednesday at Scarfe 9, or occasionally at the Student Senators' Office in SUB room 262. I look forward to giving Science a fair and vocal representation on Senate.

AMS Briefs

by Ari Giligson, AMS Rep

This article was mercilessly killed by an untimely hard drive crash which also made necessary the complete retyping of every other article in this issue. Needless to say, this event frustrated me just a little. Sorry for the inconvenience.
-Derek (Ed.)

Letters to Ed

Dear 432,

I have often wondered about what exactly it is that allows you, a student-run paper publishing a few thousand issues every couple of weeks, to get by without advertising. I mean, I like it, but how do you do it?

Jason Finlan
Life Sciences 2

Dear Jason,

It puzzles me more how the ubyssey can get by with a majority of their space dedicated to advertising and still lose $50,000 (as they did last year - their smallest loss ever). Sure, they publish four times as often as we do, and put out some six times as many issues (ie. at least 24 times as many papers), but there is usually some cost benefit to working in large quantities, and our entire budget for the year is $7000. If the Vancouver Sun and the Province can profit from advertising and have entirely salaried staff, one wonders where the money goes. I also wonder how I could get some of it. - Ed.

Dear Editor,

I noticed that the Engineers have erected a new cairn, bigger than the previous one. They did seem to take rather a long time to paint it, but there it is. Now what?

A Curious Mischief-Maker
Department and Year Withheld.

Dear Curious.

Oh, nothing.

Wink. - Ed.

Letters are welcome on any subject, relevant or irrelevant, scientific, non-scientific, or downright insane. Please submit them to the submissions pocket in the Science office, Scarfe 9, with your name, major, and year. And hey, be careful out there.

Uncle Rusty

Dear UNCLE RUSTY,

I am the curator of a small animal refuge in the lower Fraser Valley which shall remain nameless for reasons which will become obvious. During Expo 86 we catered to many tour groups composed of people from many different countries. One participant of such a group was the Prime Minister of a small tropical island country. As a gesture of goodwill from his people, we recently received a gift of a pair of rare tree sloths and for this we were extremely grateful. In keeping with our ecological policy of providing each of our animals with natural habitat and environment, we contacted the Biology department of one of the local universities and they suggested we purchase a tropical sugargum tree which provides the native home and main diet of these sloths.

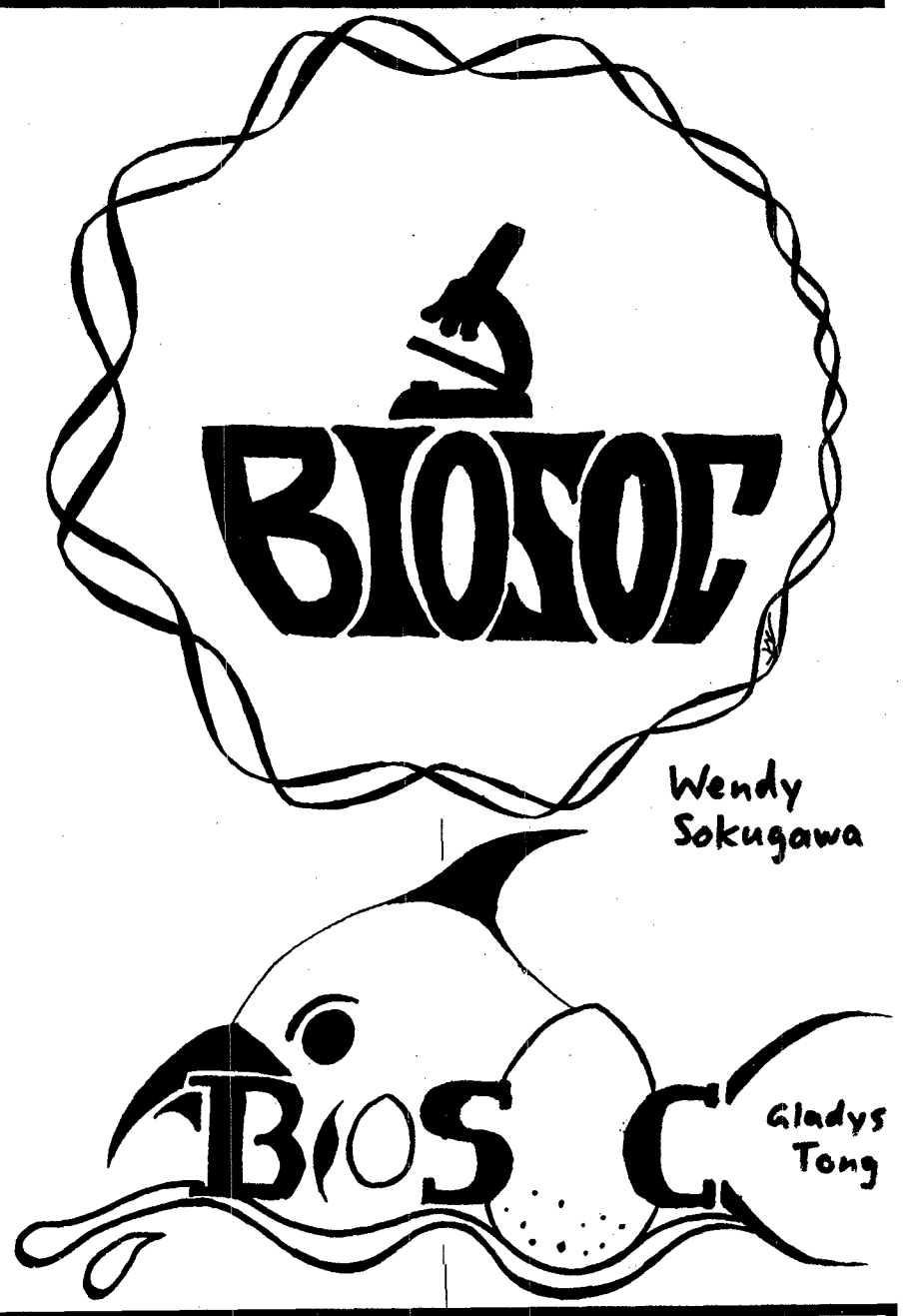
Several months later, when the tree was delivered and successfully transplanted, we noticed that there was a Japanese sniper hidden in the tree. Apparently he was unaware that the world war ended several years ago and he refuses to come out of the tree. We have tried several tactics to persuade the man out of the tree but have had no success. At first we considered shooting him out of the tree with tranquilizer darts, but we were afraid of missing him and hitting the sloths. (Too large of a dosage in the darts would kill the sloths; too small a dosage would not affect the sniper). We also proposed to chainsaw the tree but were afraid of invoking the wrath of botanical conservation groups. In desperation we tried leaving a plate of sushi at the base of the tree in the hopes that the sniper would get hungry during the night and come out of the tree to feed. So far, to our dismay, nothing has worked. The sniper has not actually fired on any of our visitors yet, but we fear the worst. Do you have any ideas how we can get this person out of the tree, or at least how we can disarm him?

Sincerely, OUT ON A LIMB

Dear OUT ON A LIMB,

Sorry, but I'm stumped on this one. Maybe an imaginative reader can offer a solution to your dilemma. How about it, readers? Any suggestions?

Sincerely, UNCLE RUSTY



Rec Fac

The RecFac Referendum

by Keith McCall and Derek K. Miller

Most of you by now have probably heard of the proposed recreational facility. For the past several months a committee has met weekly to discuss the building of a student recreation facility around McInnes Field, between War Memorial Gym and SUB. This proposal, known as RecFac, includes, according to Todd Ablett, RecFac committee chairman:

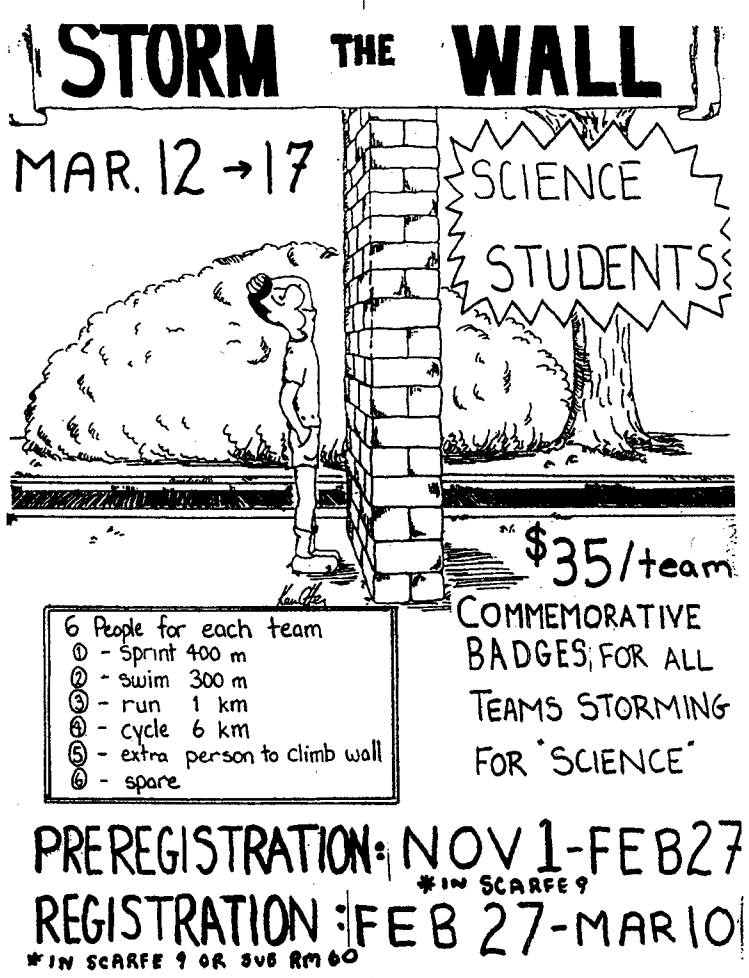
- a student recreation centre built to house the current needs of on-campus recreation.
- designation as a **recreation** centre, for organized and drop-in intramurals events, as well as student leisure-time activities.
- (under current plans, which may yet be revised) two gymnasia, a full-size field, racquet courts, weight room, karate and dance studios.
- daycare or playcare in order that students may drop off their children while using the facility.
- desperately needed club space, a cafeteria and lounge.
- a sports/concert arena capable of holding 4000 people on roll-away bleachers, which can be booked by student organizations for any event. Its use is limited only by the imagination.

Being a student-run committee, says Ablett, it understands that there are some student concerns. These include the increase in student fees, accessibility of the facility, and the misconception of the destruction of McInnes Field.

McInnes Field will not be destroyed but realigned to fit inside the facility, open at one end for 24 hour access. It will be properply maintained for use for soccer, touch football, softball, frisbee, or just sitting back and eating lunch.

Another concern is the accessibility of the facility to students. It will be available to any student, alumna, or alumnus who wishes to use it, and by providing extra space for recreational pursuits, will lighten the load on facilities currently shared by recreational and varsity sports.

The final concern is fees. The referendum, running from Oct. 31 to Nov. 4 is one which asks every student to increase their annual fee by $30. This is a temporary hike and will be removed after the building is paid off. The $30 pays for approximately one quarter of the cost of the centre. One quarter will be paid for by the University, and the final half by the provincial government.



Upcoming Intramural Events

o Mad Melvin's Mountain Bike Challenge Oct. 27
o Indoor Cricket I Oct. 29
o Wallyball Wingding Nov. 5
o Curling Bonspiel I Nov. 19
o Table Tennis Tournament Oct. 29
o Great Pumpkin Fun Run Oct. 28
o Res Road Run I Nov. 4

Deadlines

o Mad Melvin Oct. 21 (gone)
o Table Tennis Oct. 21 (gone)
o Wallyball Oct. 28
o Curling Nov. 10
o Register for runs on-site.

Register at Scarfe 9 or the Intramurals Office BEFORE the deadlines.

See the Inside UBC